

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:  
receiving search criteria;  
defining an index field map object to map one or more business components to one or more result fields associated with a search engine, the index field map object including an index field type;  
performing a search for data records matching the search criteria using the search engine, the search comprising searching in a plurality of databases, wherein the search further comprises searching at least one attached document stored in a file system if the index field type indicates the search is to be performed on the file system,  
wherein performing the search further comprises passing the received search criteria to a Virtual Business Component (VBC) if the search is to be performed on at least one external database; and  
generating search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving search criteria further comprises receiving at least one search category entered by a user.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving search criteria further comprises receiving at least one search keyword entered by a user.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein performing the search further comprises:  
passing the received search criteria from the Virtual Business Component to a search execution business service.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein performing the search further comprises:

using a search execution business service to search the plurality of databases for data records matching the search criteria; and

using the search execution business service to search the at least one attached document in the file system for data records matching the search criteria.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

sending the search results to a frame so that the search results can be listed on a user interface.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising:

displaying content of a search result selected from the search results listed on the user interface.

8. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

receiving a search category and a search keyword entered by a user;

defining an index field map object to map one or more business components to one or more result fields associated with a search engine, the index field map object including an index field type,

searching at least one database and at least one attached document for data records matching the search category and the search keyword using the search engine based on a value of the index field type,

wherein said searching comprises passing the received search category and the search keyword to a Virtual Business Component (VBC) if the user requested the single search to be performed on at least one external database; and

generating search results comprising of the data records matching the search category and the search keyword.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said searching further comprises:

passing the received search category and the search keyword from the Virtual Business Component to a search execution business service.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein searching the database further comprises:

using a search execution business service to search the at least one database and the at least one attached document for data records matching the search criteria.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising:  
sending the search results to a frame so that the search results can be listed on a user interface.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:  
displaying content of a search result selected from the search results listed on the user interface.

13. (Previously Presented) A system, comprising:  
a user interface to receive search criteria entered by a user;  
a search engine associated with one or more result fields, the one or more result fields are mapped to one or more business components by an index field map object, the index field map object including an index field type;  
a file system coupled to the search engine to store attached documents; and  
a business service to perform a search for data records matching the search criteria using the search engine and to generate search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria,

wherein the search comprises searching at least one database and the search further comprises searching at least one attached document in the file system if the index field type indicates the search is to be performed on the file system; and

a Virtual Business Component (VBC) to receive the search criteria from the user interface if the user requested a search on at least one external database.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the search criteria comprises at least one search category.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the search criteria comprises at least one search keyword.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the business service sends the search results to the user interface so that the search results can be listed on the user interface.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the user interface displays in a content area frame a search result selected from the search results listed on the user interface.

18. (Previously Presented) A system, comprising:  
a user interface to receive search criteria entered by a user;  
a Virtual Business Component (VBC) to receive the search criteria from the user interface if the user requested a search on at least one external database;  
a search engine associated with one or more result fields, the one or more result fields are mapped to one or more business components by an index field map object, the index field map object including an index field type; and  
a business service to receive the search criteria from the Virtual Business Component and to search a plurality of databases and at least one attached document for data records matching the search criteria using the search engine based on a value of the index field type,

wherein the business service sends the search results to a search frame so that the search results can be listed on the user interface.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the search criteria comprises at least one search category.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the search criteria comprises at least one search keyword.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, further comprising:  
a search adapter to adapt to a selected search engine and to generate search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria.

22. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:  
receiving search criteria entered by a user;  
defining an index field map object to map one or more business components to one or more result fields associated with a search engine, the index field map object including an index field type;  
performing a search on a plurality of databases and at least one attached document for data records matching the search criteria using the search engine based on a value of the index field type,  
wherein performing the search further comprises passing the received search criteria to a Virtual Business Component (VBC) if the search is to be performed on at least one external database; and  
generating search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria.

23. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 22, wherein receiving search criteria further comprises receiving at least one search category and at least one search keyword.

24. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising:

sending the search results to a search frame so that the search results can be listed on a user interface.

25. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 24, further comprising:

displaying in a content area frame a search result selected from the search results listed on the user interface.